June 12, 1944

Mr. Ross Annett,
Consort, Alta.

Dear Mr. Annett:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Consort to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $3.00 per day for six days subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we should appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

DONALD CAMERON.
Director

DC:h

R. ROSS ANNETT

Consort, Alberta
Canada

May 24, 1944.

Mr. Robert E. Gard
Department of Extension
University of Alberta
Edmonton.

Dear Mr. Gard:

In your letter of May 8, regarding the writers' meeting at Banff, you asked for the name and publication date of a specimen of my work.

The June 1 issue of Maclean's has a story of mine, YOU CAN'T BLAME A GIRL FOR TRYING. And the Saturday Evening Post of June 10 will publish my story WONDER WHERE WALLY WENT. These are run-of-the-mill things and I do not regard them as samples of my best work. But it occurs to me that current specimens would be easier for you to obtain than any others.

Sincerely,

Ross Annett

May 8, 1944

Mr. Ross Annett
Consort
Alberta

Dear Mr. Annett:

I am conducting this year in Alberta what we somewhat vaguely call "The Alberta Folklore and Local History Project" which is being financed by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation in New York.

I have collected quite a lot of Alberta material of a nature usable in various forms of creative writing, and now have received an additional grant to aid a few of the best writers of the Province to come to Banff for a week in August (14-19) to talk things over in general, and with the specific idea of getting a few more persons interested in using the excellent materials of the west in various forms of writing.

I have followed your work for some time; and it is writers like yourself whom we would especially like to interest in attending this Banff meeting.

If you think you might be interested in attending, would you drop me a note stating the title of one of your favorite stories and the publication and dates in which it may be found? I have to collect a specimen of work.

Our money is, unfortunate, limited, and about all we could offer would be railway fare to and from Banff, and approximately $3.00 per day toward expenses while you were there. Certainly this would not cover your complete expenses, but might help out a little. Accomodations in Banff vary, as you know.

If you could consider coming, I would feel much encouraged. I want this writing conference to be put on a professional basis.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Gard

June 21, 1944

Mr. Richard Beddues
Darpland
Alberta

Dear Mr. Beddeus:

I regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta's Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14-19.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to assist, had to be refused.

I am in hopes that despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert E. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project

RG/mk

rules sent
5/2/44

Dayland, Alberta,
April 27, 1944.

The Director,
Alberta Folk-Lore and Local History Project,
Dept. of Extension,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

I noticed a short article in the april 26 edition of the Family Herald regarding the writers conference to be held in Banff August 14-19. I am particularly interested in creative writing and would like particulars regarding the conference. I might also add that this may be considered as my application for attendence to the conference.

Professor Robert Gard spoke to the graduating class from the Olds School of Agriculture on folk lore of this province and as a member of that graduating class I enjoyed the resume of Alberta's tales given to us.

Sincerely, Richard Beddoes

May 24, 1944

Miss Edith Gervin Brooks
11916 - 87 Street
Edmonton
Alberta

Dear Miss Brooks:

I am having a copy of the Banff booklet sent to you. The booklet describes briefly what the short course entails.

It is supposed to be a practical course in which you write just as much as you can. I teach the course myself, and I think you'd have at least an interesting, and perhaps profitable time at Banff.

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Gard

RG/mk

Mr Garg

11916 - 87 Street,
Edmonton, Alberta.
May 21, 1944.

The Director,
Dept. of the Extension,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

Would you kindly give me the particulars available regarding the course in Short Story Writing? A number of us would be interested in this, and in the name of the instructor and the fees.

Yours truly,
Edith Gerwen Brooks.

RECEIVED
MAY 23 1944
Extension Department
University of Alberta

June 12, 1944

Mr. George Bugnet,
Lake Majeau, Alta.

Dear Mr. Bugnet:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Lake Majeau to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $3.00 per day for six days subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we should appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

DONALD CAMERON.
Director

DC:h

Geo. Bugnet
Lake Majeau
Alta

June 1st 1944

Dear Mr. Gard

You are wondering what plans I might have for that week at Banff, were you to select me as a delegate.

Not knowing what other writers I could meet there, nor what they will bring into your proposed discussions, I run the risk of finding myself as a round peg in a square hole, or duplicating the contribution of a better contributor. Yet, I could perhaps submit my views on "How to Write Canadian and Albertan" that is in a way that no other save a Canadian, or an albertan, can master.

My views, of course, may not be the best, but they must have some value when such critics as Sir Andrew Macphail and Monseigneur Camille Roy both agreed that in revealing a new country I succeeded - in their opinion - even better than the great Louis Hémon, while they also both agreed that Hémon is the best (and in my opinion, by far the best) when characters - the human element - enter into play.

As to cite you a piece of my writings I especially like, I am rather at a loss. I like them all, and sometimes dislike them all (on account of their imperfections) about equally. Yet, I have, perhaps for its very imperfection, a partiality for the first alberta-born among my poetical works. Please find it enclosed.

Sincerely yours for a
greater albertan literary art.
Georges Bugnet

The Canadian Bookman

A Monthly Devoted to Literature, the Library and the Printed Book

Published by THE BOOKCRAFT PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED

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Vol. 4 No. 12 TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1922 $2.00 a year 25c a copy

The Second Book Week

IT would be quite impossible within the limits of this magazine to present anything like an adequate account of the innumerable activities by means of which the members of the Canadian Authors Association, from end to end of this Dominion, and in many places outside of it, strove during Canadian Book Week to assert the utility of a national literature and the need of co-operation between authors and public for its production. Not a branch of the Association failed to throw itself into this work with energy and conviction, and with methods and devices peculiar to its own local character and the special needs of its territory. It is in work of this kind that the unique constitution of the Association, with its strong central authority for dealing with national questions and its constant emphasis on local autonomy for the branches in all other matters, is seen at its best. In the organizing of Canadian Book Week the head office could do little except determine the date, enter into understandings with one or two other national bodies (notably the Librarians), offer a few suggestions as to methods and text for propaganda, and give the word Go. The real work was done by the locals. Probably from four to five hundred persons participated actively in the campaign of oratory, library exhibits, bookstore displays and other devices by which the Week was this year carried on. The newspapers of the country were literally loaded for three weeks or more with articles on Canadian books and Canadian authors, and with reports of speeches on similar subjects. Nearly a hundred members of the Association spoke, some of them to as many as eight or ten audiences. The retail book trade, under the leadership of Mr. A. T. Chapman of Montreal, co-operated most judiciously, with full recognition of the fact that the Week's object was not a commercial one, that of the selling of books, but rather a spiritual one, that of promoting a more sympathetic relation between Canadians and their authors.

The chief share of the head office in the observance consisted in the booking of certain long-distance tours for speakers, notably those of Mr. Basil King through the Maritime Provinces, and Dr. Archibald MacMechan in Ontario. Both of these tours we believe to have been productive of very important results. Mr. King was given an extraordinary welcome on his return to the land of his boyhood and youth, and left wherever he went a profound sense of literature as something going on in the hearts and minds of the people as a whole and not of their authors alone. Dr. MacMechan brought to Ontario the story of the early and intensely native development of literature in his adopted Province of Nova Scotia—a literature which was the natural fruit of a high local culture. Ontario had also the advantage of several addresses by Mr. H. Gerald Wade of Winnipeg; and the presence of Judge Emily Murphy in the East, though not due to Book Week, was taken advantage of by several branches of the Association. We cannot refrain from mentioning the names of three branch officers who (aided ,as we are well aware, by devoted fellow-workers), seem to have achieved really surprising results, though in naming them we are perhaps doing injustice to equally brilliant workers at a greater distance from the head office. But any association which can enlist the services of such executives as Mrs. Madge Macbeth in Ottawa, Mr. Hugh S. Eayrs in Toronto, and Miss J. G. Sime in Montreal, can count on "getting things done." It is perhaps not inappropriate to remark that both of the ladies in question, in their different metiers, are striving sincerely and successfully to put something of the real Canada into the Canadian novel, and that Mr. Eayrs, once a writer and now a publisher, has shown exceptional courage and enterprise in bringing out the works of new Canadian writers.

French Verse From the West

WE desire to draw the attention of all our readers who can apprehend the merits of a French stanza, to the remarkable poem by Georges Bugnet, which appears in our French pages. We hope to publish from time to time, perhaps with some regularity, examples of French verse inspired and written in Canada, which seem to us to deserve the attention of both the French and English reading public of the country. It is not to be expected that either section of our community will read all or much of the verse written by the other section; and if we can include in our French section the ten or twelve poems of each year's output which are most worthy of English-Canadian attention, and hold them up for admiration by our English readers, we shall surely be performing a useful service. Mr. Bugnet's poem is the more remarkable in that it is written in and about, not the Province of Quebec nor Acadia, but the new country west of Manitoba.

Then!
Who says that English and French
cannot get along together?

Après la Bataille

La seconde semaine du livre canadien est terminée. Il peut être utile de jeter un regard en arrière et de récapituler brièvement les initiatives que nous avons prises à cette occasion. Il ne s'agit pas de s'adresser des compliments; mais bien d'établir un document qui nous servira dans l'avenir.

Le but de la semaine du livre canadien n'est pas tant de vendre un nombre considérable de volumes pendant cette période, que de créer un mouvement d'intérêt dans le public. En organisant une publicité bien conduite et active, en faisant du bruit autour de notre littérature, nous réveillerons nos compatriotes de leur indifférence et le livre canadien prendra une importance qui l'élèvera, de sa position de parent pauvre, à une place honorable dans les rangs de la grande famille littéraire. Certes, on ne peut atteindre ce résultat en une semaine ni même en deux; néanmoins, comme le clou qui finit par entrer à force de l'enfoncer, une idée s'impose par la répétition fréquente qu'on en fait, par l'obstination à la mettre devant le public, à chaque occasion. La semaine du livre canadien ne constitue qu'un article du vaste programme que se trace l'Association des auteurs canadiens pour faire l'éducation du public. Ce programme forme un ensemble assez imposant et qui acquiert de la puissance.

Notre devoir était donc d'organiser beaucoup de manifestations en l'honneur du livre; parler et faire parler de lui. Nous n'y avons pas manqué. Des discours furent prononcés en plusieurs endroits; des articles, nombreux, étendus et très suggestifs, furent publiés dans la plupart des journaux de la province. Et, à ce sujet, nous ne saurions trop remercier les directeurs qui nous ont aidé de toutes manières. Des messages par radio ont été lancés aux quatre coins de l'Amerique; en effet le puissant poste de la "Presse" avait été mis à notre disposition pour les besoins de la cause. La semaine du livre y fut inaugurée par le président de l'Association et le secrétaire de la section française. De plus une "soirée des auteurs" y fut organisée, au cours de la semaine, et où des orateurs et des artistes nombreux se firent entendre; entre autres, Mlle. Cécile Sorel et M. Albert Lambert, de la Comédie française; Mme. Huguenin, MM. Victor Morin, Lionel Léveillé, Ae. Fauteux, etc. . . A cela ne se bornèrent pas nos activités. Des expositions nombreuses furent ouvertes durant toute la semaine. Aux bibliothèques Fraser et municipale, on exposa de vieux livres. A Saint-Sulpice, la section réunit les volumes de luxe prêtés par des bibliophiles complaisants; ce fut là, nous pouvons le dire, le triomphe du livre. Les libraires avaient établi, eux aussi, des étalages très élaborés.

La section française employa même les méthodes de publicité les plus avancées. Un concours-devinette, auquel étaient attachés des prix intéressants, fut organisé.

Pour couronner le tout, une brillante réception mondaine et un grand dîner de clôture, au Cercle universitaire.

Les sous-sections de Québec et Ottawa ne restèrent pas oisives et firent la campagne dans leurs district respectif.

Un beau succès a couronné tous ces efforts. Ce n'est pas encore l'idéal. 'Il nous appartient de continuer notre travail et d'améliorer encore nos méthodes. C'est ce que nous ferons l'an prochain.

—P. ALFRED DAVIAULT.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE

Pour rendre service, et aux lecteurs et aux auteurs, la section française a décidé, lors d'une récente assemblée, d'établir un service de librairie. C'est-à-dire, que son secrétaire recevra les commandes pour tous les livres étudiés dons les pages françaises du "Canadian Bookman," on mentionnés sous la rubrique, "Bibliographie." On se chargera également de faire parvenir tout autre livre canadien.

Nous insistons sur le fait que la section ne veut aucunement établir une concuren ence au détriment des libraires nous aiderons plutôt ces derniers, car nous remplirons les commandes reçues par leur intermédiaire.

Voici une première liste: Paul Morin—Paul Morin—"Poèmes de cendre et d'or, $1.10.

Jules Fournier—"Mon Encrier," 2 vols., $2.20.

Emile Coderre—"Les Signes sur le sable," $1.10.

Abbé Arthur Tuindon—"Aux temps héroiques," $1.10.

Jacques de Gaspé—"La famille Chouinard," $2.10.

Lise—"Feuilles éparses," $0.70.

Eugène Corriveau—"L'Anti-féministe," comédie, $0.25.

M. P.-Alfred Daviault, secrétaire de la section française, fera parvenir ces livres sur réception du prix marqué. Adresser à 559 rue Chambord, Montréal.

LE COYOTE

Ne Appropies huc . . . ~~Locus~~ Locus Enim, in Quo Stas, Terra Sancta est

Liber Exodi III., 5.

I.

Sous la nuit qui descend, hors la rude broussaille,
Le coyote est sorti, silencieusement.
Il allonge le cou, regarde, hume le vent,
Il pointe son oreille et, par moments, tressaille.

Dans ses veines, ce soir, son sang a fermenté.
Ce soir, l'instinct puissant l'emporte â l'aventure.
Ce soir, il a senti que sa force était mûre.
Il s'en va, consommant l'âpre fatalité.

Il trace dans la neige une ligne très droite; (I.)
Aucun bruit n'avertit les silences songeurs,
Il glisse, ombre vivante, en de mortes lueurs,
Et son pas s'assourdit, comme étoupé d'ouate.

Une lumière brille à l'horizon lointain . . . .
Espérant, d'un désir farouche, insurmontable,
Apercevoir le front de l'être formidable,
Le loup, avidement, flaire l'effluve humain.

Brusquement, il s'arrête et s'écrase en la neige.
Une odeur inconnue a frappé ses naseaux.
Il écoute un instant et frémit jusqu'aux os
Sous la vague terreur du redoutable piège.

Toutefois il est prêt pour le suprême effort. . . .
Nul bruit. . . Et, dédaignant les hantises funèbres,
Le coyote, éperdu, rampe dans les ténèbres
Vers l'inflexible appel du vertige de mort.

II.

C'est fait. . . Au fond des bois, dans la sombre ravine,
Il râle sourdement, sur la neige étendu,
Le coeur triste, ulcéré, lourd du fruit défendu,
Le corps arqué, roidi, par l'amère strychnine.

III.

Et, comme lui, cherchant, sans cesse, votre seuil,
Seigneur, et frémissant à l'appel du mystère,
Lassé d'incertitude, écrasé de misère,
Ne trouvant ici-bas que la nuit et le deuil.

L'homme, ainsi, s'est rué dans l'éternelle brume
Espérant découvrir un moderne Noël . . . .
Son rêve est avorté, comme l'autre Babel,
Et son coeur s'est empli d'une immense amertume.

—GEORGES BUGNET,

Rich Valley, Alta., mars 1921

(1) Le coyote, en marchant, pose les pattes l'une devant l'autre et sa trace est remarquablement rectiligne. (Note de l'auteur).

Note de la Rédaction—Ce poème, "Le Coyote," où l'on remarque la profondeur du sentiment, unie à l'élévation de la pensée et à la beauté de la forme, est extrait d'un volume de vers qui paraîtra bientôt. Nul doute que ce livre sera reçu avec la plus grande faveur, car M. Bugnet se révèle comme l'un de nos meilleurs poètes.

This piece, and some others, were published, later on, in Paris, in Les Annales etc. that's the best literary French reviews. So it should not be so bad. If somewhat immature. E.B.

THE KAISER'S MEMOIRS

have been the object of the keenest competition ever known in the publishing world and have cost a quarter of a million dollars cash in advance. As a business proposition the enormous price is a fair valuation because

The Kaiser is the Most Spectacular Figure in the World To-day

If Nero had written his memoirs, what might we not have learned from them? If Napoleon, in lonely exile, had left the real story of his downfall, what later tragedies of might, gone mad, might not have been averted? But the ex-kaiser has told his own tale in these remarkable memoirs--from his explanations, defences, excuses, defiances and regrets, the intelligent reader can make his own deductions and draw his own picture of the man who, however much he may have been misled by counsellors, was never a figure-head, but consciously dominated every scene.

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will hear of the book, will know something of its extraordinary character, and will, without doubt, have taken his part in many heated arguments concerning it.

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Allies' Part in World War; Abdication and Flight; Germany and the Treaty; Secret Treaties Before War; Reminiscences of Czar Nicholas; France's Policy Since 1871; Mistakes of an Emperor; Germany's Own Politics; Blame for the Allies; Atrocities and Works of Art; Woodrow Wilson and 14 Points; Future of the Fatherland; Question of War Guilt; Relations With Edward VII; Diplomacy of Great Britain; Faults of the Chancellors; Social Laws in Germany; Yellow Peril and Russia; Apologies for Germany; Why the Author Avoided Suicide.

Order at Once, Price $4.00

The Musson Book Company, Ltd., Publishers, Toronto

May 26, 1944

Mr. Georges Dugnet
c/o F. [illegible] Higgins
Sangudo
Alberta

Dear Mr. Dugnet:

I have been intending to write to you for a long time, and now something arises which makes a letter imperative.

As you may have heard, we are trying this year to collect folklore from the Alberta countryside -- stories, sayings, etc. pertinent to the life of the people.

My chief interest in this project is to ultimately bring what we collect to the attention of Alberta writers, and with the idea of working up greater interest in regional themes.

This summer, therefore, at Banff during the week of August 14 to 19, we want to bring ten or a dozen Alberta writers together for discussions of the region, writing, and topics of general creative interest.

I especially want to interest a writer who has used the fine French Canadian field as background for his work.

For a good while your general work has been known to me, and I am wondering what plans you might have for that week in August, were we to select you as a delegate.

We would agree to pay your fare to and from Banff and about $3.00 daily while you were there during the Conference week. This isn't much, but it would help out.

Please let me know, and could you cite me a piece of your writing you especially like?

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project

June 17, 1964

Dr. Myrna Lang Burkitt
311 5th Street South
Lethbridge
Alberta

Dear Dr. Burkitt:

The [illegible] have at last been awarded in connection with the Writers' Conference.

[illegible] filled your material very well, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain financial assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without assistance? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted material in our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project.

M/ek

June 10, 1944

Mrs. Alice Lutalla,
Divide, Saskatchewan.

Dear Mrs. Lutalla:

I have your letter of May 3rd for assistance to our Writers' Conference being held as part of our Banff School of Fine Arts August 14th to 19th inclusive. I regret that because of the terms of our grant, we are confined to provide assistance to Alberta people only, and we are therefore unable to extend any assistance to people in the Province of Saskatchewan. However, if you are able to get to the course we would be glad to permit you to participate in it on the understanding that we have no responsibility for your expenses.

Regretting that we are unable to assist you, I am

Yours very truly,

Director

DC:h
c.c. to Mr. Gard

June 17, 1966

Mr. H. D. Carrigan
Publicity and Travel Bureau
Parliament Building
Edmonton
Alberta

Dear Mr. Carrigan:

The Establishables have at last been started in connection with the Writers' Conference.

We liked your material very much, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without any charge? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted material in our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours very sincerely,

Robert H. Ward
Director, Publicity and Travel Project.

ww/ck

June 21, 1944

Mrs. Alice Dieleman
Box 240
Leduc
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Dieleman:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14-19.

Our selections are made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to assist, had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert K. Gerl
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project

RG/mj

Mr Ward

Replacement
5/5/44

Leduc, Alta.
May 3, 1944.

Dept. of Extension
U. F. A.
Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Sir,

With regard to the Writers' Conference to be held in Banff August 14 to 19 will you please give me some information? Can anyone interested in writing attend these lectures? Although interested in Alberta folk-lore I would not be able to collect material as I have lived only two years in this district.

However I came to Alberta in 1909 and lived for many years in the Klapland and Fawcett districts. I might be able to contribute material from those

part.

I have read many articles in farm magazines and would greatly appreciate a chance to attend these lectures if available to beginners in writing such as myself.

Any information you can give me regarding these lectures will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Alice Erickson

Box 240

Leduc

Alberta.

June 21, 1944

Miss Iona Farvolden
c/o Mr. T. Midbo
Daysland
Alberta

Dear Miss Farvolden:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14-19.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to assist, had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, that you will decide to come to the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project

RG/mk

25th April, 1944.

Miss Mona Farvolden,
% Mr. T. Midbo,
Daysland, Alta.

Dear Miss Farvolden:

I have your letter of April 14th, with reference to the Writers' Conference to be held at Banff.

You will be eligible to attend this conference, and I am sending you herewith an outline governing the awarding of assistance to ten selected writers. You may submit your application on the basis outlined in this mineograph, but in the event that you are not among the first ten, you would still be able to attend by paying your own expenses.

Yours sincerely,

DONALD CAMERON.
DIRECTOR.

DC/AN.

Writers' Parley Planned at Banff

Sponsored by the University of Alberta, extension department, a writers' conference will be held in connection with the Banff school of fine arts, Banff, from Aug. 14 to Aug. 19.

The university plans to bring together a group of Alberta writers who are interested in doing creative writing about the region in which they live, officials stated. The August conference will be under the direction of Robert E. Gard, director of the Alberta folklore and local history project, and Donald Cameron, director of the extension department. Professor A. M. Drummond, head of the drama department at Cornell University, will be a guest lecturer.

Assistance to the value of a return railway fare and $3.00 per day for a maximum of six days will be available to each of 10 writers who attend.

Dayzland, Alberta
April 14, 1944.

Department of Extension,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton.

Dear Sirs,

The enclosed clipping was taken from a recent issue of The Edmonton Journal. I have lived in one of Northern Alberta's homestead districts for a considerable number of years, and have now come into a comparatively developed community. The change is great.

It has been my wish to write the history of this district for the interest of those who live there, and those who will be making their homes there in the future.

Is there any possibility that I shall be admitted to the Conference in Banff if I pay my own expenses? - I am no professional writer - just one who likes to write.

U. OF A.
APR 17 1944

Yours truly,
Nora Farradeus.

% T. Midboe, Dayzland, Alberta.

June 12, 1944

Miss Della Foss,
10211 106th St.,
Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Miss Foss:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Edmonton to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $3.00 per day for six day's subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we should appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]
Director

M:S

May 8, 1944

Mrs. Della Foss Walker
Station C.J.C.J.
Edmonton
Alberta

Dear Della Foss:

I really feel terrible for not having got around to see you; but I just can't seem to get to everything these days.

I am writing about the proposed writers' meeting at Banff, August 14 to 19. I wish you could come. This is purely a professional meeting, and I think you might enjoy it, as well as being in the mountains.

We are in a position to aid about ten Alberta writers to attend, and if you wish to be considered, send, or give me a copy of one of your best radio plays.

If you were selected as a delegate, we would pay your fare to and from Banff, and about $5.00 per day expenses for the week. This isn't much, but would help out.

Yours sincerely,

Robert T. Gard

June 21, 1944

Mrs. Vere Brooks
Cowdrey
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Brooks:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14-19.

Our selections are made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to assist, had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Ward
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project

RW/b

The Yard

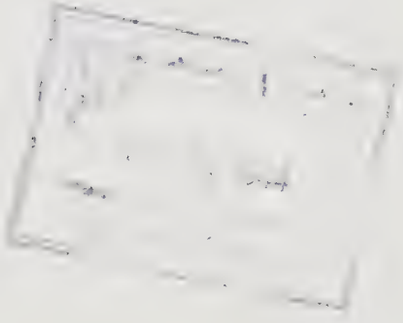
Goodwin, Alta.
April 25: 1944

Dear Sir:

I have been studying journalism for a year and for several years have been collecting anecdotes concerning people of this region, with object of some day incorporating them in a book; thus I am very interested in the forthcoming Writers' Conference to be held at Banff in August. Would you kindly send me full particulars concerning the Conference.

Sincerely Yours

Mrs Vera Franks.



June 13, 1944

Miss Lee Frost,
[illegible] 11th Ave. E.W.,
Calgary, Alta.

Dear Miss Frost:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Calgary to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $5.00 per day for six day's subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we should appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]
Director

WJ:l

212 12 Avenue N.W.,
Calgary,
May 31, 1914

Mr. R. Gard
Department of Extension
University of Alberta.

Dear Mr. Gard:

Recently Miss Catherine Frost of this city spoke to me about her interest in the Banff Writers' Course offered in August, and showed me the notice sent out announcing this course. In accordance with the requirements there indicated, I am writing to you to say that, although I know nothing of Miss Frost's ability in writing, I have on various occasions, at Guild Hostel gatherings,

heard her speak, and have always found that she speaks well, ~~both~~ in respect both to subject matter and to delivery. This may have some bearing on the work she is interested in carrying on at Banff this summer.

It is pleasant to read of this year's projects for Banff. There are few spots more interesting since the School of Fine Arts has been established there. I expect to return again to the French School, and enjoy to the full your theatre activities in English — which we all greatly appreciate on our "nights out".

With best wishes for the success of your enterprise,

Yours sincerely,

E. Catherine Buckley.

May 27, 1944

Mr. John Patrick Gillese
P. O. Box 9
Rochfort Bridge
Alberta

Dear Mr. Gillese:

You seem to have had very good luck with your writing -- a very excellent sales record!

Could you send me a copy of an article or story? I have to collect some sort of specimen from prospective delegates.

If you are selected to attend, we would pay railway fare to and from Banff, and approximately $5.00 per day for the week of August 14 to 19. Probably not enough to cover all your expenses, but it should help.

I want to get about ten good Alberta writers to come if I can. Please let me hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Lord
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project.

RG/mk

June 18, 1944

Mr. John F. Gillese,
Rochefort Bridge, Alta.

Dear Mr. Gillese:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Rochefort Bridge to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $5.00 perday for six days subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we would appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

[redacted].
Director

DJ:h

15th October, 1944.

Mr. John Gillese,
P.O. Box 9,
Rochfort Bridge, Alta.

Dear Mr. Gillese:

Your letter of August 29th was on my desk when I returned to the office this week, and I wish to thank you for the report you have given me on the Writers' Conference. It makes a useful summary of the course although it was not quite what I wanted. However, it will do.

What is this I hear about you becoming editor of "To-day and To-morrow"? If that is the case I presume that you will be living in Edmonton and it will be easy to get in touch with you with regard to the Writers Conference work. I would like you to keep in close touch with me with regard to this during the winter.

Yours sincerely,

DONALD CAMERON.
DIRECTOR.

DC/AN.

COLUMNS:
The Psychologist Muses
Look At Our Lives

John Patrick Gillese
Free Lance Author and Journalist
P. O. BOX 9
ROCHFORT BRIDGE
Alberta, Canada

FICTION
FEATURES
VERSE

Aug. 29/44.

Mr. Don Cameron
Director, Dept. of Extension
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr. Cameron:

Enclosed please find what record I have of the First Alberta Writers' Conference. I was not sure just what detail you wanted, but I think I have covered most of the main points.

I welcome this chance to tell you how much I enjoyed the whole Conference. I think, looking at it objectively, that goes for all who attended it, too. For some of them it was extremely helpful, and all of us caught a contagious inspiration from it, I think.

Already I'm getting letters from some of those who attended the various sessions, which is a good sign. I'll do my best to get them an interesting and helpful quarterly letter; and later on in the fall, I will see you or Bob Gard about mimeographing and whatever other little technical details may turn up.

Yours respectfully,

John Gillese.

1944

BO 11/10/44

ALBERTA WRITERS' CONFERENCE --- August 14-19th inclusive.

Monday, Aug. 14th:

Conference was officially opened in the Banff Schoolhouse at 3:00 p.m. by Donald Cameron. Most of the delegates were present -- including, Elsie Park Gowan, Gwen Pharis Ringwood, Norman Soars, Georges Bugnet, Frank Steele, Kae Frost, Wm. Parker, John Gillese and about thirty other people, mostly students of the Short Story class. The meeting was informal, Professor Gard leaving it to the attending writers to decide on their own course of activities. A committee -- composed of Gwen Pharis Ringwood, Kae Frost and Norman Soars -- was formed to go over ways and means of encouraging young Alberta talent in the writing field. A short-story lecture, under John Gillese, was scheduled for the following morning at ten.

Tuesday, August 15th:

10:00 - 12:00 a.m.: Forty-two delegeates and short-story students attended the lecture by John Gillese on short-story writing.

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.: Professor Gard spoke on Alberta folk-lore and its possible application to the literary field. Guest of the afternoon was Professor Drummond, of Cornell. Professor Gard asked about writers' activities for the following day. Frank Steele of the Lethbridge Herald suggested a poetry session, and Professor Drummond agreed to act as chairman. Mr. Murray Gibbons, music critic from ~~Toronto~~ Montreal, was a special Conference guest.

Wednesday, August 16th:

10:00 - 12:00 a.m.: The "poetry session" with Professor Drummond as chairman. The time was devoted mainly to brief surveys of different types of Canadian and American poetry.

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.: This was newspaper afternoon, starring Bob Needham of the Calgary Herald, Frank Steele of the Lethbridge Herald, and Mr. Craig of the Edmonton Journal. Discussions were more or less aimed at showing beginning writers that there had been, and probably would be after the war, some opening for them in newspaper magazine sections. Representatives stressed the fact that local newspapers always wanted local history and regional stories, in particular.

Thursday, August 17th:

10 - 12 a.m.: Professor Gard again presiding, there was an open discussion on how to encourage young writers to develop their talent and to get forward in writing as a profession. Bob Needham added to his previous day's discussion, emphasizing the necessity of reading a lot in order to write successfully. He again went into the possibilities of any writer making any piece of Canadian background "his" to write about.

3- 5 p.m.: A session devoted to playwriting. Professor Drummond of Connell spoke first on playwriting in general. Elsie Park Gowan, CBC dramatist, spoke on construction of the radio drama, emphasizing the fact that the CBC is anxious to get writers who know this country and who can

interpret it. Professor Robert E. Gard followed this with an address on scenario and stage plays. Gwen Pharis Ringwood concluded with a brief talk on her own experiences in the field; and there was a lively discussion afterwards. Generally, this session seemed to rank with that of the short-story for enthusiasm.

8 - 10:30 p.m.: Attending writers expressed a wish for a market talk for beginners, and as "day" time was limited, the first evening meeting was arranged. John Gillese went into detail on preparation of ms. for beginners, "slanting" of material, and the easiest ways to break into print for cash. A mimeographed "Beginners' Market List" was distributed among those who attended.

Friday, August 18th:

10 a.m.: An outstanding Canadian naturalist, Dan McCowan, spoke on his own writing experiences, his hobby of collecting books --- particularly those on regional history. There was full attendance.

Gwen Pharis Ringwood then directed a "preparatory talk" for the business meeting to be held the following morning. Miss Kae Frost of Calgary was appointed secretary; and the writers present expressed their ideas of what should be done at the conference next year.

Friday (cont'd.)

1:30 - 3 p.m.: More "writers' activities." This time a criticism of story beginnings by John Gillese. About ~~forty~~ thirty attended, and interest was lively.

3 - 4:30 p.m.: Forty-four attended Georges Bugnet's lecture on the Canadian Novel. This well-known interpreter of the French-Canadian scene discussed in detail his theories about such a novel, claiming primarily that a true Canadian novel is unique insofar as it depicts the struggle of "man against nature". He gave a brief synopsis of his own literary adventures.

4:30 p.m.: Again catering to the request of the writers attending the Conference, there was a brief session on article writing, with Frank Steele in charge.

Saturday, August 19th:

10 a.m.--- Prof. Robert Gard presided again, as Don Cameron opened the business meeting. The Director of the Extension Department presented the view and attitude of the Banff Fine Arts School in regard to the Conference itself and in particular to the suggestions and recommendations which had been handed in the day before. Features adopted were:

1. That the 1945 Conference be of 10-day duration, part conference and part course.

2. John Gillese was appointed secretary for the coming year, one of his duties being to turn out a quarterly

"letter", listing markets news, reports of sales, etc.

3. Time-tables for the next conference were to be sent out in plenty of time to interested writers. Planning and distribution of these was left to Professor Gard and John Gillese. Writers were anxious that the Conference should be so planned that the greatest number of interested writers would find it convenient to attend.

Recommendations of the "Committee to Encourage Alberta Talent" were read by Mrs. Ringwood; and the meeting appointed a committee to try to implement those proposals. Norman Soars, Kae Frost and William Parker were appointed, with John Gillese acting in an ex-officio capacity.

Nearly all the delegates attending the Conference expressed enthusiasm for the help derived, and interest shown, throughout the 6-day session.

---John Gillese.

..... 30 .....

Alberta Women's Institutes

DIRECTORS

Mrs. D. W. Patterson, Grande Prairie — Mrs. A. B. McGorman, Penhold
Mrs. H. R. Evans, Innisfree — Mrs. R. E. Reynolds, Picture Butte

CONVENERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Social Welfare .....Mrs. F. G. Grevett, 224 13th Ave. W., Calgary
Citizenship .....Mrs. M. I. MacKenzie, Knee Hill Valley
Agriculture and Canadian Industries..Mrs. Max Zabel, Peace River
Home Economics and Handicrafts.....Mrs. C. G. Strong, Box 91, Vegreville
Supervisor of Girls' Clubs.....Mrs. Roy Drake, New Dayton
War Services Convener.....Mrs. E. E. Morton, Vegreville
Publicity Convener (North).....Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Box 514, Wetaskiwin
Publicity Convener (South).....Mrs. Charity Norton, Coaldale
Loan Collection .....Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin

PRESIDENT
Mrs. M. L. Thompson, Coaldale
VICE-PRESIDENT
Mrs. E. E. Morton, Vegreville
SECRETARY
Mrs. W. MacFarlane
Box 406, Red Deer
TREASURER
Mrs. H. J. Montgomery
Box 514, Wetaskiwin

224 - 13th Ave. W.
Calgary Alta
June 20th/44

Professor Robert Gard
Director, Folklore and Local
History project.
Edmonton.

Dear Professor Gard:-

I received your letter of June 12th today, June 20th; notifying me of the rejection of my application to attend the Writers Conference at Banff. August 14 - 19/44.

I appreciate the fact that your selections would be based on geographical location as well as merit. But I'm at a loss to understand how you came to your conclusions. Re merit, in my case since I did not submit any writings to you, and did not follow the application through.

I know you would probably have more applicants than your funds would permit you to assist

and can fully appreciate your difficulties. Thank you for advising me of your decision. However, and on my return from a Summer Course at Yale University. I shall try to attend the Conference. I believe it will be of tremendous value in stimulating greater interest in local history and folklore in our province.

For four years it was my privelege to work in this particular field for the Alberta Provincial Institutes, and I know there is a wealth of material collected already, and much more that can be secured.

Wishing you every success in this new venture.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs F. G.) Alice L. Prevett.

June 12, 194[illegible]

Mrs. F. L. Brevett
[illegible] Avenue East
Calgary
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Brevett:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 1 to 12.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as merit, and a large number of good writers than we could have liked to assist had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert K. Gyrd
Director, Writers and Local History Project.

rk/ec

Alberta Women's Institutes

DIRECTORS

Mrs. D. W. Patterson, Grande Prairie — Mrs. A. B. McGorman, Penhold
Mrs. H. R. Evans, Innisfree — Mrs. R. E. Reynolds, Picture Butte

CONVENERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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Mrs. W. MacFarlane
Box 406, Red Deer
TREASURER
Mrs. H. J. Montgomery
Box 514, Wetaskiwin

224-13th Ave. W.
Calgary Alta
April 22nd/44.

Dear Professor Ford:-

Having noticed in the Press - that a Course is being arranged at the Banff school of Arts this coming year, for Writers - or, those interested in creative Writing. And that a limited number of scholarships are available for this purpose.

I would like to apply, for consideration of your Committee, for one of these scholarships. I have had some newspaper experience - and have a keen desire to write something really worth while - have written the occasional article for a number of small papers, and magazines - but never a real human interest story.

Trusting my application may receive favorable consideration. Yours sincerely

(Mrs F. G.) Alice A. Grevett.

Rec'd sent
4/24/44

June 21, 1944

Miss Jean A. Ralls
2403 2nd Street West
Calgary
Alberta

Dear Miss Ralls:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for admittance to come to the Alberta Citizens' Conference at Banff, August 14-19.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to assist had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Ward
Director, Children and
Local Library Project

RE/a

2403-2nd Street W.,
Calgary, Alberta.
April 12th, 1944.

Professor Robert E. Gard,
Director Folklore, Local History Project,
Department of Extension,
Alberta University,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

What must one do to qualify for the writers' conferences to be held in connection with the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14 to 19?

I would like very much to attend the conferences, and take some part in the writing up of Alberta's vigorous and colorful past.

Yours truly

Jean B. Halls

Jean B. Halls.

June 11, 1944

Miss Mabel [illegible] Ireadale
[illegible] 14th Street East
Calgary
Alberta

Dear Miss Ireadale:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14 to 19.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as merit, but a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to enlist, had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project.

RG/el

2122 14th St. W.,
Calgary, Alberta,
April 12th, 1944.

Professor Robert A. Ward,
Director Folklore & History Project,
Department of Extension,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

According to a news item in the Calgary Herald of April 11th, there will be a writer's convention held in Banff, August 14th to 18th, under your direction, which will cover Alberta History and Folklore. This field interests me and I should like to have some part in writing it up. Will you be good enough to let me know how I may qualify?

Yours very truly,

Isabel M. Iredale

Isabel M. Iredale.

June 17, 1[illegible]

[illegible] Jameson
[illegible]dmore
Alberta

Dear [illegible] Jameson:

The [illegible] have at last been awarded in connection with the Writers' Conference.

We liked your material very much, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without assistance? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted material in our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours very sincerely,

Robert T. [illegible]rd
Director, Folklore and Oral History Project.

RG/ml

Midnapore,
April 14, 1944.

Prof. Robert E. Gard,
Director of Alberta Folk-lore,
Dept. of Extension,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir;

I heard from Mr. Kennedy the Indian agent at Hobbema that an address or talk has been arranged for in connection with gathering Alberta folk-lore.

Would you please send me the necessary information on this subject? It is one in which I am particularly interested.

Yours sincerely,

Sheilagh M. Annison.

June 11, 1941

Mrs. Dora J. Kerns
[illegible]
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Kerns:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 15-19.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, but a large number of good writers than we should have liked to accept, had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert T. Card
Director, Folklore and Local History Project

RC/kk

25th April, 1944.

Mrs.Cora J. Kerns,
Acme,
Alta.

Dear Mrs. Kerns:

I have your letter of April 14th, and am glad to know that you are interested in the Writers' Conference we are holding at Banff. I am sending you herewith a copy of the outline governing the awarding of assistance to selected individuals to attend the conference. You are eligible to submit an application for this assistance, but whether or not you are successful in being awarded the assistance you would still be eligible to attend. I am sure that you would enjoy the experience at Banff very much.

I was at the farm on the Easter week-end, and mother told me that you had been visiting them not very long ago.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

DONALD CAMERON.
DIRECTOR.

DC/AN.

Acme, Alta.,
Apr. 14, '44.

Mr. Donald Cameron,
Edmonton.

Dear Sir:-

Saw announcement in Calgary Herald re writers' course at Banff Aug. 14 to 19 and wondered if I would be considered eligible for it. Have shot several times of writing up some local historical incidents for Prof. Gard but never got around to it. We have left the farm now and I hope to have more leisure.

Was very disappointed that I couldn't get to Banff last August but we scoured the country for help and just couldn't get any, so I couldn't get there. This year I will just leave them to batch it if we can't get a cook, you see I'm not far enough away from the farm yet, but I do have electricity and some other conveniences that helps me a lot.

A. B. Claypool spoke of writing up local history a couple of times but I never seemed to get at it. If I could go to Banff for two weeks I might take this course and then do some work afterward.

Also want to write up the life of the son J. Lost and it would help me in that way too.

I saw your Mother, Mary + Dave not long ago at your old home east of Lonsdale.

Best wishes to your wife + yourself.

Sincerely,

Tom J. Kerne.

June 17, 1981

Mr. Lillian [illegible]
[illegible]
Alberta

Dear Mr. [illegible]:

We would be delighted to have you attend the Writers' Conference at [illegible] this summer.

Unfortunately, we have already awarded the two assistantships for this year, but any interested writer may attend the meetings.

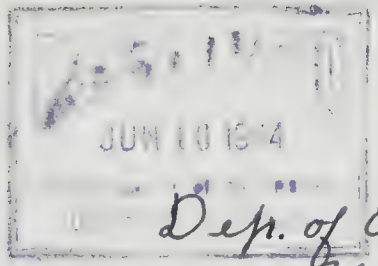
We also offer two writing courses at the [illegible] School: short story writing and playwriting. Should you be interested in taking a formal course, I will send you a short booklet which explains the courses in more detail.

I am interested in your materials, and would like to hear more about them.

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Card

RC/[illegible]



Evansburg Alta.
June 13th 1944.

Dept. of Extension,
University of Alta.
Edmonton.

Although I do not consider myself a writer, I have been working on a book concerning the early settlers of Alberta, for five years. Am writing it as a novel, but it dates back to 1911 and concerns some Settlers of The Last Best West. In a way it is historical as it brings out in detail some dramatic incidents in the lives of the settlers, the trails, condition of the country, trials, hardships and triumphs, as well as their dialects and manners of speach and living habits.

I came to this country thirty-three years ago, and know, through personal contact and experience, a little about it.

Are there any helps or suggestions which could be obtained from the Dept. of Extension? Are there any courses in adult education to be had?

And, would you kindly send me details of the rules governing eligibility to attend the Writers Conference, to be held in connection with the Banff School of Fine Arts on Aug 14th to 19th?

Respectfully Mrs. Lillian B. Kimball
Evansburg -
Alta.

June 21, 1944

Mrs. J. J. Leslie
Box 171
High River
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Leslie:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14-19.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we should have liked to assist, had to be refused.

I hope that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the Conference. I believe that you could make a fine contribution, and that you might gain some helpful information at the meetings.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert T. Ward

RTW/ak

Box 171,
High River, Alberta.
April 13, 1944.

Prof. Robert E. Gard.
University of Alberta.
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr. Gard:

Through a newspaper item my attention has been drawn to the fact that you will be a director of a writers' conference being held in Banff this summer.

of the type used in Sunday School work.

I have made several attempts to write of this country, and especially of life in High River, but none of these stories have been used or published. This is an intensly interesting district. It offers an abundance of material to any writer who could do it justice.

I would be interested in assisting folk-lore

The item does not say what qualifications one must have to be called "a writer". The only writing I have done that could be termed "professional" was for radio. I was a script and commercial writer for radio station C F A C for a year and a half prior to my marriage. Since that time any stories I have completed have been

and local history projects in this district. There is a great deal of material available - just last Sunday I had the privilege of seeing a unique collection of Indian relics owned by an elderly lady living in the foothills.

Would you kindly let me know if I am eligible for the conference and give me details concerning it. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Jean Leslie
(Mrs. J. B. Leslie)

June 11, 1964

Mrs. Mary C. Lush
Bayrens
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Lush:

I deeply regret that we are unable to accept your application for assistance to come to the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff, August 14 to 21.

Our selections were made on the basis of geographical location as well as on merit, and a large number of good writers whom we would have liked to assist, and to be served.

I am sure that, despite our inability to assist, you will decide to attend the conference. I believe that you would make a rich contribution, and that you might gain some original information at the meetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert K. Ward
Disease, Failure and
Local History Project.

rw/ak

Empress, Alta.,
April 10, 1944.

The Director,
Alberta Folklore and Local History Project,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Sir:

Your recent article in the press on the Alberta Folklore and Local History Project interests me, and I hope to be present at the writers' conference at Banff next August.

I have been a resident of this district for thirty years, and during some of that time I have been in touch with the ranching industry. Of English nationality, and with an English public school education, I came to this country with my parents in 1904, as part of the Barr colonist party, and travelled in a covered wagon from Saskatoon to Lloydminister.

For nearly a year I have been Empress correspondent for the Calgary Albertan. So far I have only reported local news, but I do hope eventually to branch out into features.

We have no library in this village, and so no means of book research. Could arrangements be made with the Extension Dept., to get text books along research lines, say of folklore and provincial history? Any suggestions and encouragement you could offer would be appreciated.

Whether or not I decide to try a manuscript before the conference, I shall be happy to be on your list of assistants to give what help I can, either from this district, or old-time reminiscences from the afore-mentioned covered wagon days, if I can be of any use.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) Mary C. Lush

June 17, 19[illegible]

Mrs. [illegible] J. Courtour
[illegible]
Moyalles
Albert

Dear Mrs. Courtour:

The [illegible] Scotsmen have at last been started in connection with the Albert Conference.

[illegible] liked your material very much, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain [illegible]nce. If we are unable to provide financial aid, we think you might still come as a delegate without assistance. We believe you can make a fine contribution.

[illegible] would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted materials in our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours very sincerely,

Robert T. Card
Director, Folklore and Local History Project.

RC/ml

25th April, 1944.

Mrs. Freda McArthur,
Box 85,
Royalties P.O.,Alta.

Dear Mrs. McArthur:

I have your letter of April 14th, with reference to the Writers' Conference to be held at Banff.

You will be eligible to attend this conference, and I am sending you herewith an outline governing the awarding of assistance to ten selected writers. You may submit your application on the basis outlined in this mimeograph, but in the event that you are not among the first ten, you would still be able to attend by paying your own expenses.

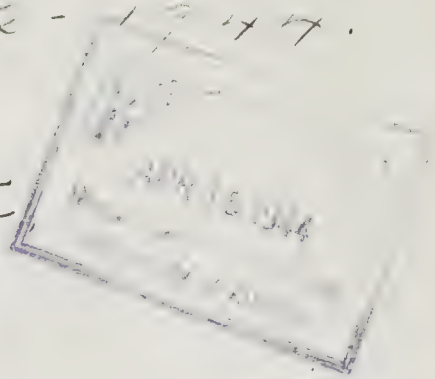
Yours sincerely,

DONALD CAMERON.
DIRECTOR.

DC/AN.

Box 85, Boyle, Alberta
April 12 - 1927.

Dept. of Extension,
University of Alberta
Edmonton,



Dear Sir,

Am interested in the writers' conference to be held in connection with the School of Fine Arts at Banff next August. Will you let me know how one may be enabled to attend? My home is near the oil-fields.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) Freda McArthur

May 4, 1944

Mrs. A. Y. McCorquodale
High River Times
High River
Alberta

Dear Mrs. McCorquodale:

If you are interested in attending the Alberta Writers' Conference at Banff in August (14th to 19th) send me a note either enclosing one of your articles which you are especially fond of, or indicate the publication in which such an article or story may be located. I'm supposed to collect a specimen of work from all potential delegates.

I confidently hope that you are interested and will be one of the ten selected. Expense money is somewhat limited, but if you are selected to come, we will pay you the equivalent of return fare to Banff and about $3.00 per day while you are there. Not much, but it might help out. This is what we used to pay members of the legislature in Kansas, and I understand several of them starved to death.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

I am

Yours sincerely

Robert E. Gard

Something About Alberta

ONE of the pleasantest memories of childhood on an Alberta ranch is recalled by the smell of new-mown hay. As two or three or four children would appear in the hay field with their lard pails containing hot tea and a covered basket, the drivers of the two mowers and the rake would head towards the stack, and when the sweep teams arrived the horses would have their nose muzzles removed and be allowed to crunch mouthfuls of the newly-cured grass, while the men took off their gloves, shook out the hay-seeds and sat down with their backs resting against the half-finished stack. One, two, three cups of tea each, and sandwiches and cookies we watched disappear, hoping there would be some left for us.

Once father sent me off on an errand to a neighbour mowing on the other side of the creek. "May we borrow your spanner?" He was a real old-timer, with little respect for green Englishmen. He looked at poor me a minute and then burst out laughing. "Do you mean some kind of a dawg?" But he sent me back with the required tool.

Once the dogs set up an unearthly commotion on the sunny side of the stack, and when we all jumped up and rushed around there, they were tangled up with a badger. Father grabbed a pitchfork and ran to help the dogs. He succeeded in jabbing it through the lip of the creature and pinning it to the ground, while one of the boys used a neck-yoke to smash its skull.

Many farmers say a badger does more good than harm by killing gophers and ought to be protected, but father hated them because they dug great holes for valuable horses to break their legs in, and played in the grain fields on moonlight nights, smashing down the standing grain.

Then, when the lunch was all gone and the old linen napkin replaced in the basket, we would have a ride on the hay sweep. It's easy to hold on to at first, but gradually the hay piles up in front of one as the two teams divide and go one on each side of the big piles of hay gathered and left by the rake.

By the time a big circle is completed and the stack reached again, one cannot see over, but can only hang on, with his face pressing into the sweet new-mown hay. Only the bravest child refrained from jumping off the load before it began to slide up the lean-to end of the stack on the long peeled poles that were the skidway. One ride was all we could stay for, because by the time we had trudged home again it would be time to go and get the milch cows.

—*Freda M[illegible]*

June 17, 1964

Mrs. T. E. Cyr/dman
Fairmore
Leeds

Dear Mrs. Cyr/dman:

The Assistantship have at last been awarded in connection with the Writers' Conference.

We liked your materials very much, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without assistance? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your materials submitted to us for our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Ward
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project.

RW/dl

Blairmore, Alberta.
May IO, I944.

The Director,
Dept. of Extension,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

I read in one of the daily papers that a Writers' Conference is being arranged in conjunction with the sessions of the Banff School of Fine Arts.

May I have further details about this Conference, please, as to dates, Courses, fees etc.

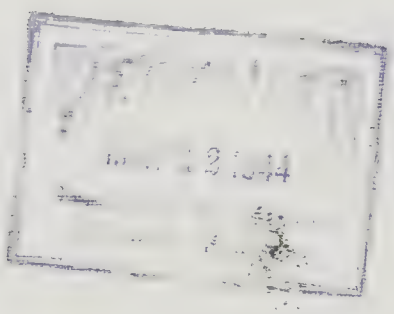
Thanking you, I remain,

Yours truly,

Mrs T. E. Mudiman.

Mrs. T.E.Mudiman.

Mrs. T.E.Mudiman,
Blairmore, Alberta.



May 15, 1944

Mrs. T. E. Maddigan
Claresholm
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Maddigan:

The Writers' Conference will be held during the week of August 14 to 19 at Banff. Anyone who is interested in writing Alberta themes in creative writing is invited to attend. There is no fee.

In case you wish to try for an assistantship to the Conference, I enclose a set of specifications. Ten Alberta writers will be given assistance to attend the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Ward

RW/mk

June 2, 1924

Mr. A.J. Deadman,
[illegible],
[illegible].

Dear Mr. Deadman:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 16th to 31st are glad to accept your application, but we regret that it will be impossible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Calgary to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $3.00 per day for six day's subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we should appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]
Director

DC:h

5MORRO 25

CX. CALGARY.ALTA.JULY 6 1108AM1944

DR.ROBERT GARD.
EXTENSION DEPT UNIVERSITYOFALTA
SOUTHEDMONTON. ALTA.

3135 9

Phoned to 6th
by R.Ford
1135 DM

EXPECT NEEDHAM BACK EARLY AUGUST HAVE WIRED HIM FOR CONFIRMATION HE WILL SPEAK AT WRITERS CONFERENCE STOP WILL ADVISE YOU SOON AS I HEAR REGARDS.

ALLEN BILL. CALGARY HERALD.

1125PM JULY 6

May 8, 1944

Dear Bob:

Regarding the writers' meeting at Banff in August (14th to 17th), could you send me a copy (or indicate publication and date) of one of your good pieces of work? I have to collect a specimen of your work from everybody.

I will be most disappointed if you can't manage to attend. Expense money is somewhat limited, but we could offer fare to and from Banff, and about three bucks a day for the week -- not much, but it might help out.

I wrote Harvard about the Journalist fellowship, and imagine you will hear from them. I trust you'll have better luck than you did with the Guggenheim folk. They're dead on their feet.

Drop me a line when you can.

Yours sincerely

I thought this might amuse you. Please return it.

rjn

May 4, 1944

Registrar
Harvard University
Cambridge
Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Would you please send information regarding the Journalism Fellowships to Mr. Richard J. Needham, Associate Editor, The Calgary Herald, Calgary, Alberta.

Yours sincerely,

Robert G. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project.

RG/mk

June 17, 1[illegible]

Miss Julia Olson
Mountain View
Alberta

Dear Miss Olson:

The [illegible] have at last been started in connection with the Writers' Conference.

We liked your material very much, and there is a possibility if one of the selected delegates cannot attend that you will still be able to obtain assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without assistance? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted material in our files. If we may do this, would you let us know?

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Ford
Director, Folklore and Local History Project.

RF/[illegible]

Writers' Conference At Banff Announced

Edmonton, Alta., April 17.—Sponsored by the extension department of the University of Alberta, in conjunction with the Banff school of fine arts, a six-day writers' conference is to be held at Banff August 14 to August 19.

The conference will be under the direction of Robert E. Gard, director of the Alberta folklore and local history project, and Donald Cameron, director of the extension department, and will be open to Alberta writers who are interested in doing creative writing about the regions in which they live.

Enrolment is limited and 10 scholarships amounting to the value of return railway fare and $18 maintenance for the six days will be offered.

Mountain View Alberta

April 21, 1944.

Dept. of Extension,
Edmonton.

Gentlemen:

May I have particulars concerning the enclosed clipping ~~concerning~~ about your writer's conference in August.

What are the terms of enrolment? The fee, - qualifications, - time limit, etc.

Thank you.

Yours Truly
Mrs. Julia Nelson.

Extension Dept
Rec'd 4/26/44

June 12, 1944

Mr. W.W. Parker,
Waskateneau, Alta.

Dear Mr. Parker:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Waskateneau to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $3.00 per day for six days subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending, we would appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]
Director

DJ:L

Waskatenau, Alberta
June 14, 1944.

Mr. Donald Cameron,
Director of the Department of Extension,
University of Alberta, Edmonton.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter, accepting my application to the writers' conference held at the Banff School of Fine Arts and for the railway fare to Banff and return plus $18 subsistence for the six days, August 14 to 19th.

I hope to be able to see you or Mr. Gard before then. If you wish my song, "Our Alberta" on your program, you will find a copy of it with material Prof. Gard has of mine.

Yours very truly,
Wm. V. Parker
Shop Instructor

Haskatenau, Alta.
May 5, 1944

Prof. Robert E. Gard,
Director of Alberta Folk-Lore and
Local History Project,
Dept. of Extension,
University of Alberta

Dear Sir: I shall be glad be present at the writers' conference at Banff and would agree to help (to) collect and assemble materials indigenous to my region, if given this assistence to attend at Banff.

My age is 47. I am English by my father's side (from the Mayflower) He was an inventor who lived to be 92, and invented many useful farm machines. (Wisconsin and Illinois). Mother's family were Irish and Pennsylvania Dutch, who moved to Illinois. (Bruce wrote a story of the early days in Illinois, "Slave Underground Railway" and one on canoeing on Lake Michigan and the Mississippi "Rovers Three".)

I took grade XII in Illinois, and wrote it again in Alberta. I took Normal in Edmonton and six Summer School in Calgary

and in Edmonton. I am now planning working on an Alberta Universitty course. I have 20 years experience teaching in Alberta, mostly in foothills of Alberta. I taught two years on prairie at Alliance and Three Hills, where I organige Industrial arts shops, and published school magazines. I showed moving pictures from the Dept. of Extension of the University more than five years in over 100 schools and halls. I worked in logging in bush of Alberta and I homesteaded seven years 50 miles west of Edmonton. I am now travelling with car to five towns where I am shop instructor to five town schools including Smoky Lake and Vilna, (85% Ukrainian children.) I am holding exhibits in all these schools of school efforts. On June 30 I have been invited to co-operate with Smoky Lake on (this) its 25th aniversary. I have held amateur programs and was secretary of the Sundre School Fair when

it celebrated its 25th anniversary, and when we gave out $500 in prizes. I was secretary of the Glenevis U. F. A. and its president. I was a school trustee two years. I married a school teacher and we have five children, (three boys), one in air-force. I am Protestant. I have written some short newspaper and magazine articles on the west and one movie scenario on Alberta. You have my stories on Alberta and my game and project work. I have been awaiting some time for your decisions on the usefulness of the material, which I submitted.

Is there anything else necessary to qualify, which I must do? I would consider it an honor to be chosen. I can't think of any other secrets, except that I've been a reporter for the Journal, Bulletin & Albertan.

Yours respectfully,

Wm. V. Parker

May 24, 1944

Mrs. Rose Pastel Whitworth
Rocky Mountain House
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Whitworth:

Thanks for the article. I am really disappointed that you won't come to Banff.

I plan to be in Rocky this week end but will, of course, be calling on you both.

Yours sincerely,

Robert T. Card

rtc/ac

Rocky Mountain House, Alta.,
May 11, 1944.

Prof. Robt. E.Gard,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Mr. Gard,

Your letter just received and thank you very much for the invitation to attend the Writers' Conference in Banff, August 14--19. I want so much to go, but regret that I cannot manage it, as the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Convention is being held the very same week in Winnipeg and my husband wants me to attend that with him. So I'm afraid I just can't get to Banff---and I did want to go so badly.

Should something crop up that either date is changed, or if for any other reason, I can go to Banff, I'm enclosing a copy of an article published in the Catholic Digest and the Magnificat. You will, of course, have heard much of Father Lacombe, one of Alberta's great pioneers. If this isn't the type of article you wish, I'll send another. Don't return it, as I have several copies.

We're looking forward to seeing you in Rocky Mountain House shortly, and Mr.Hooker and the rest of us, have a very full week mapped out for you.

Thanks again for giving me the chance to attend the Conference, but unless something unforseen occurs, I guess I just won't be able to go.

Hoping we'll see you here again before long, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Grace Yeoward Schierholtz.

May 8, 1944

Mrs. G. A. Schiermeltz
Rocky Mountain House
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Schiermeltz:

I am writing today in connection with the proposed Writers' Conference in Banff, August 14-19. You are one of the people I particularly would like to see over there, and I wonder (if you are interested in coming) whether you could send me either a copy of one of your best stories or articles, or give me publication and date, so I can look it up? I have to collect a specimen from every candidate.

Our funds are limited, but we could offer you fare, or its equivalent, to and from Banff, and about $3.00 per day while you were there. This would help out some, at any rate.

Please write me as soon as possible.

Stan Hooker sent me an approximate of your typing time on the articles, so we will get off a check to you right away.

Yours sincerely,

Robert T. Gard

June 12, 1944

Mr. Frank Steele,
Lethbridge, Alta.

Dear Mr. Steele:

I have pleasure in advising you that the committee on selection of writers for the conference being held at the Banff School of Fine Arts from August 14th to 19th has agreed to accept your application, and we hope that it will be possible for you to be present.

Your railway fare from Lethbridge to Banff and return will be paid and you will be allowed a grant of $3.00 per day for six days subsistence. Any expense, however, above this will be your own expense.

In the event that there should be a change in your plans which should prevent you from attending we would appreciate your advising us at your earliest convenience in order that someone else may be considered in your stead.

Looking forward to seeing you at Banff, I am

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]
Director

DC:h

JOHN TORRANCE
BUSINESS MANAGER

W. A. BUCHANAN
PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Lethbridge Herald

Lethbridge
ALBERTA

Saturday

Dear Fried Gard:

Donald Cameron was down the other day and we discussed the Writers' Conference at Banff in August. I told him I hoped to go and thought I would make reservations. I usually stop at the Homestead at Banff. I also mentioned that at your request I had mailed you a copy of the Canadian Geographic carrying an article of mine on the Hutterites. I hope you received this O.K. It would be a very nice thing to get one of the Conference Scholarships as every little bit helps. However, that is really beside the point. I am talking the Conference and would like to see a few of mur more promising creative writers get up there. It is an opportunity and I feel will start something worthwhile. Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Fred Stenson

May 8, 1944

Mr. Frank Steele
Lethbridge Herald
Lethbridge
Alberta

Dear Frank:

Regarding the Alberta Writers' meeting at Banff (August 14 to 19th), could you send me a copy, or indicate publication and date, of one of your best stories or articles. I have to collect some sort of specimen from everybody.

I hope you will be selected as a delegate, in which case we would provide fare to and from Banff, and about $3.00 per day toward expenses . . . not much, but it might help a little.

Write me soon.

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Gard

June 17, 1964

Mrs. M. E. Miller
Didsbury
Alberta

Dear Mrs. Miller:

The contestants have at last been married in connection with the Writers' Conference.

We liked your material very much, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without assistance? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted material in our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours very sincerely,

Robert E. Ward
Director, Folklore and Local History Project.

mf/wb

R.R.2.
Didsbury,Alta.
May 30,44.

Alberta Writers' Conference Committee
University of Alberta,
Edmonton,Alta.

Dear Sir,

Kindly consider this my application for the Alberta Folk-Lore and Local History Project.

I am 39 years of age.

I have High School and Normal School training.

I taught school for seven years,in farming communities, and mining towns.and in the bush.

I well remember the early years on the homestead in Eastern Alberta. My married life has been spent on a farm.

My parents were both born in Canada.My grandparents were all from the British Isles.

I am enclosing postage,and would appreciate it,if you would return the published articles submitted,as I have no other copies of them.

I have had about 60,000 words of articles published, in farm magazines and newspapers.

Yours truly,

Marjorie K. Stiles.

Mrs.W.E.Stiles.
R.R.2.
Didsbury,Alta.

Francher, Alberta.
May 25th 1943

Dear Mr. Gard;

Thank you for remembering me, by sending the information regarding the art Conference to be held this year at Banff.

I did prepare an article, composing a few chapters, despicting an imaginary drama, with rather true setting and locale, and well within the realm of possibility.

However, it was never my intention to do very much of this for exhibition, or competition but merely to prepare a booklet of something of interest to send to my relatives for a Christmas gift.

While it is not very difficult to form a plot for a story and write it out, it is extremely so, to correct and re-phrase it to perfection, which is very necessary, I think.

I hope that you achieve your purpose and gain all the information, that you desire.

The composition which I wrote, has been sent to Miss E. Ennis of Perth, N.B. who generally typewrites and may supervise

some changes necessary to be made.
Should you care to get a look at it, you could write her, or whatever you think best, but I would like a bit of criticism, because possibly thereby I might learn a little about how to write compositions, of which I now know but little.

In closing I should like to ask if it is permissable for me to be the recipient of some of your literary works, and later perhaps some of those prize-winning ones entered in the exhibition and previously

Thanking you for all your favours, past & future, I remain as ever,

Yours very truly

Lester. F. Story

Tesar, Martha A.

General Delivery,
South Edmonton, Alta.
April 24, 1944.

6/7/44

Extension Department,
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr Gard:

Would you kindly send me full particulars regarding enrollment for the Writer's Conference to be held under your direction at Banff, during the month of August.

Yours truly,
Martha A. Tesan.
(Mrs. Alex Tesan)

Timis, Winifred

June 17, 1944

Miss Winifred Tims
1616 11th Avenue West
Calgary
Alberta

Dear Miss Tims:

The Assistantships have at last been awarded in connection with the Writers' Conference.

We liked your material very much, and there is a possibility that if one of the selected delegates cannot attend, you will still be able to obtain assistance. If we are unable to provide financial aid, do you think you might still come as a delegate without assistance? We believe you can make a fine contribution.

We would appreciate the privilege of keeping your submitted material in our files. If we may do this, would you please let us know?

Yours sincerely,

Robert E. Gard
Director, Folklore and
Local History Project.